

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1164

Introduced by Assembly Member Wright

February 28, 1997

An act to add Section 11261 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to human services, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1164, as amended, R. Wright. AFDC: eligibility: employment training.

Existing state law provides for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, pursuant to which qualified families are provided with cash assistance. Existing federal law provides for allocation of federal funds through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to states that participate in the TANF program.

Existing federal law imposes conditions on states for participation in the federal TANF block grant program, including the condition that a certain portion of the recipients of aid under the TANF program participate in certain work activities.

This bill would specify that any otherwise eligible individual who is enrolled in a degree or certificate program either full time or part time and meets other work activity requirements

shall be eligible for TANF benefits *for up to one year*, and shall be eligible for child care and transportation services.

Existing law provides for the California Community Colleges and specifies the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Governors and the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

This bill would appropriate an unspecified sum from the Federal Trust Fund to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges for the purposes of coordinating and implementing the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 with respect to the educational services provided to recipients of AFDC program benefits who are attending community college.

The bill would also declare the intent of the Legislature to have California Community Colleges serve as the vehicle to provide necessary employment training to recipients of AFDC program benefits.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to
2 provide fundamental educational competency training
3 opportunities for the recipients of Aid to Families with
4 Dependent Children (AFDC) program benefits. It is
5 essential for the successful transition of recipients to work
6 that they receive sufficient training to enable them to
7 find adequate employment to support themselves and
8 their families. California's community colleges are a
9 low-cost avenue that would provide recipients a sufficient
10 level of training to empower them to pursue
11 employment. It is the intent of the Legislature that the
12 California Community Colleges serve as the vehicle to
13 provide this needed employment training.

14 (b) It is the further intent of the Legislature to require
15 the State Department of Social Services to provide a
16 liaison with the California Community College system to
17 coordinate the needed competency training of recipients



1 of AFDC program benefits and to facilitate the transition
2 to employment for recipients.

3 SEC. 2. Section 11261 is added to the Welfare and
4 Institutions Code, to read:

5 11261. (a) Any individual who is enrolled full time in
6 a degree or certificate program that will lead to
7 employment or who is enrolled at least half time in a
8 degree or certificate program that will lead to
9 employment and who is also participating in the required
10 number of hours of work activities required under
11 Section 407(c)(1) of the Social Security Act (42. U.S.C.
12 Sec. 607 (c)(1)) shall be eligible to receive assistance, *not*
13 *to exceed one year*, if he or she meets all other applicable
14 eligibility requirements and he or she is making
15 satisfactory progress in the program in which he or she is
16 enrolled.

17 (b) (1) For purposes of subdivision (a), an individual
18 shall be deemed to be enrolled in a program that will lead
19 to employment if the individual provides any of the
20 following:

21 (A) A signed statement from an employer stating that
22 he or she will employ the individual upon program
23 completion.

24 (B) A list of three employers in the area who have
25 frequent employment opportunities in the occupation
26 pursued by the individual at a skill level that can be
27 achieved by the individual through skill training
28 components offered by the program in which the
29 individual is enrolled.

30 (C) The statement of the governing body of a school
31 district, community college, university, local Job Training
32 Partnership Act service delivery area administrating
33 body, or any office of the Employment Development
34 Department stating that the program will lead to
35 employment.

36 (2) The county welfare department may waive the
37 requirements of paragraph (1) if it determines that the
38 program in which the individual is enrolled will lead to
39 employment.

1 (c) Any individual who is eligible under this section
2 shall be eligible to receive child care and transportation
3 services during the period in which he or she participates
4 in the program on which eligibility is based under this
5 section.

6 (d) For purposes of this section, to the extent
7 permitted by federal law, any of the following shall be
8 characterized as work activities:

9 (1) Work and study programs.

10 (2) Paid and unpaid cooperative education programs.

11 (3) Community service.

12 (4) Internships.

13 (5) Work experience.

14 (6) Paid and unpaid private or public sector
15 employment.

16 SEC. 3. The sum of ____ dollars (\$____) is
17 hereby appropriated from the Federal Trust Fund to the
18 Chancellor of the California Community Colleges for the
19 purposes of coordinating and implementing the
20 provisions of the federal Personal Responsibility and
21 Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L.
22 104-193) with respect to assisting recipients of Aid to
23 Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program
24 benefits who are attending community college.

